

St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 am

March 2015

Wednesday Lenten worship at 12 noon & 7:00 pm

Dear friends,

I AM NOT a dinosaur (although the name “Karenosaurus” sounds kind of interesting.)

Nevertheless, I am **not** a dinosaur and I do not **serve** a dinosaur-like institution. The Church of Jesus Christ is vital, and not extinct.

While I am quivering with passion, let me tell you I get tired of people telling me what they **think** I believe as a Christian and why they don't like it or can't believe in God because they think Christians believe thus and so.

I get tired of it because nearly every time they tell me what they think I believe they get it wrong!

(Why don't we **ask** each other, rather than launching our opinions at each other like intercontinental ballistic missiles? Why are we so eager to criticize and so slow to inquire?)

Despite my passion, I do try to be diplomatic and if they give me half a chance I will share what I actually believe as a Christian given their specific issue or question. We usually end up a lot closer in understanding one another.

But even people within our Church community question whether our churches will be able to continue in the present and the future. Many people do fear extinction of our churches as we know them now.

And many pastors and other church leaders struggle to see a way forward in a world that seems to have dismissed all “organized religion” as a worthless endeavor.

My personal strategy is to learn as much as possible about the healthy practices of faith formation and mission in this world, and then to **partner with you** to offer what God has gifted us to do and be in this community.

I don't do this work in a vacuum or unilaterally. My understanding of the bible, church, theology and practice is shaped by the confessions of the Lutheran Church that have been around for almost 500 years. There is deep wisdom there.

With Martin Luther I believe that God has called people to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equipped people through the Holy Spirit to carry out that mission in a thousand wonderful ways that bless this world.

Perhaps that is a special matter for hope in that our Lutheran churches have coped with rapidly changing cultures for 500 years, and the whole Christian Church has coped for 2000 years with all sorts of challenge and change!

So here is how I see my role in a church whose life and form is changing in response to a very quickly changing world: I need to keep learning how to equip you (to the best of my ability) **to live your faith in this world.**

That's what we are **all** called to do by our baptism – **to live our faith in Jesus Christ in this crazy, changing world.**

Living faithfully for the good of others is what Jesus did in our midst. His life, his death, and his resurrection show us that there **is** a future and it is good, and Jesus reveals to us the way to live our faith in this challenging present time: humbly trusting in God's goodness.

We are each called as individuals and we are all called as a congregation to follow Jesus on the Way.

I am grateful to be with you in our partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ at St Andrew's. I trust that Jesus will guide us to learn what we are called to do and be and become in his love.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

**Daylight Savings Time begins
Sunday, March 8th**

**Our time “springs forward”
Please don’t forget – put your clocks ahead
one hour!**

BYG – Beginning Youth Group
Saturday afternoon, March 14 from 2 to 4 pm,
3rd, 4th and 5th graders are welcome to join us for
a Game Day! We always have fun! See you there!
Info: Patty Koplitz, 420-5616,
pattykoplitz@gmail.com

Confirmation Class & Worship Schedule March 4 through March 25th

Our confirmation classes run from 6:00 to 7:30 pm,
but during March include a Lenten meal and mini
class about prayer and other ways of living our
baptism from **6:00 to 7:00 pm**. Then we join in
Lenten worship led by our students from **7:00 to
7:30 pm**. Everyone is welcome and please come
as your schedule permits!

The meal is simple and provided for you. If you
would like to help us with providing the meal there
is a sign-up sheet beside the door into the
Fellowship Hall. PLEASE **feel free** to COME!

To all of our parents, teachers and members: we
would like to say **thank you** for all the ways your
help our confirmands grow in faith! The example
you set for them is crucial and the support you offer
them strengthens their faith today and for years to
come. May God bless you!

Preparation for Holy Communion
Saturday, March 21, 2015
(Alternate time: Saturday, March 28)
9:00 am to 12:30 pm

We learn the biblical stories of the Passover and the
Last Supper, learn from the Small Catechism about
the sacrament and its meaning, make flat bread that
we will use in worship on Maundy Thursday and
learn about the range of practices in different
Christian traditions!

*Call Pastor Karen to sign up and for more information!
We encourage parents/mentors to attend! (235-6616)*

**HYGIENE DRIVE – “Help for the Homeless”
runs now through Sunday, March 15th**

Please bring your donations in to drop off by
Sunday, March 15th. Drop off box is in entryway
by the Sunday School. Thank you so much!

Prints of Peace
Sunday, March 8 at 6:30 pm
in the fellowship hall

Lori Koch from the Animal Hospital of Oshkosh will
be sharing about her role in assisting families when
their pets pass away. Please join us for worship
and fellowship.

Prayer around the Cross
Sunday, March 22 at 6:30 pm
in the Sanctuary

Come and bring your prayers for healing in your life
and the lives of those you love. Our candlelit
worship includes psalms, simple songs, and quiet
prayer. You are always welcome.

Bible Studies in March

Monday night 7:15 pm – we continue to read the
Gospel of Mark. On one evening, **March 9th we
will not meet** due to a time conflict with the Annual
Meeting of Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh.

**Wednesday noon study will begin at 12:30
during Lent** –to follow the Wednesday Lenten
worship service.

We will finish the Adult Crossings Study of the 8
Core stories of the Bible. This has been very
exciting and combines video, discussion, bible
study and journaling. Please feel free to come and
see if it is for you!

Looking ahead to April...

Wednesday, April 1, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Our confirmands, teachers, and Candace Anderson
will reflect on the Gospel of Mark making art as we
review what we have read during Lent.

Tuesday, April 7 is our next election day.

**Save Saturday, April 25th for the upcoming
Oshkosh Money Conference**

This is a marvelous resource for helping your
household stewardship – come learn financial
practices that empower you to use your resources
wisely and well.

www.assetbuilders.org

Worship Schedule in Holy Week

Sunday, March 29th is **Palm Sunday**,
Palm Procession at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Thursday, April 2nd is **Maundy Thursday**,
Worship 12 noon and 7:00 pm.

Friday, April 3rd is **Good Friday**,
Worship at 12 noon and 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 5th is **Easter Sunday!!!**
Worship at 7:00 am
Easter Breakfast from 8:00 to 9:30 am
Festival Easter worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Sunday, April 5th from 8:00 to 9:30 am Easter Breakfast!

This is one of our favorite fellowship times all year!
Member families cook all your favorite breakfast
foods, serve you before and after Easter worship
and we have the chance to catch up with one
another once again.

Would you like to help? Contact Chris Ziegler
ziegler1@new.rr.com or call (920) 235-5194

Devotions on line...

Free daily devotions are available at these
websites:

<http://d365.org/> (on-line and relating to our
readings for Sunday, with beautiful music)

<http://rachelhackenberg.com/> (prayers and
poems that uplift and challenge! On her site
you can sign up for "prayer prompts" that help
you write your own prayers to God.)

<http://www.sacredspace.ie/> (very simple
prayer to do on-line – very peaceful)

<http://www.davidlose.net/> (a blog by Dr David
Lose, President of the Lutheran Seminary in
Philadelphia – daily readings from the gospel
of John, a meditation on the reading and a
prayer. In addition, David Lose often reports
on other aspects of Christian life, citing TED
talks, poetry, and other resources.)

March Noisy offering & in kind offering – Oshkosh Area Human Society

The **Oshkosh Area Humane Society** experiences
a huge influx of cats and kittens *especially from*
April to November – often trying to house and
feed 250 to 300 cats. Many people do not think to
spay or neuter their cats and cats may reproduce
as quickly as rabbits!

To make sure the cats they care for stay as healthy
as possible, they are given a small serving of
canned food every morning topped with an immune
booster. That averages out to be about 900 cans
of **Friskies Pate Style canned cat food** a month.

In addition, the shelter provides canned cat food for
those who foster cats in their homes until they can
be adopted.

We have designated the **March 15, 2015 noisy
offering** for the OAHS but also we are collecting
canned cat food to help them. The OAHS would
like to receive what the cats seem to prefer: **pate
style canned cat food**, not shreds or bits with
gravy. They also like the fishy, stronger smelling
flavors best. Boxes for your donations of canned
cat food are in the entry way near the Fellowship
Hall. **Thank you so much** for helping us help the
Humane Society!

What is your preference for receiving St Andrew's Church news?

Please let us know in the office if you would like:

1. a printed newsletter mailed to you monthly
2. a newsletter sent to your email address as an
attachment
3. use the newsletter information provided on the
website

You may call the office at (920) 235-6616 to let us
know or email us your preference at:
office@standrewsoshkosh.org

Your choices will help us convey information to you
more efficiently and hopefully make it more useful
to you! Thank you so much to everyone who told
us through the Time and Talent Sheets or have
called us in the office!



Notes & Meetings

St. Andrew's Men with Purpose (STAMP)

Breakfast –

Meet at the Delta Restaurant 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, Mar. 14, at 8am

Lunch –

Meet at Jansen's Restaurant 344 Bowen St
Tuesday, Mar. 17, at noon

Lutheran Adults for Fun and Fellowship

There will be NO LAFF Fellowships held in March. Join us in April to meet new and old friends and enjoy the fellowship. Bring a dish to pass if you are able and bring your own tableware. All are invited!



Art & Soul

Please note date change this month!

Saturday, March 14, from 10:30 am – 4pm.

Art & Soul continues to meet once a month on the last Saturday of each month from 10:30 am – 4pm at St. Andrew's. All are welcome, all abilities are welcome. We work on our own projects, as well as community projects. Our latest project is collecting peanut butter jars for the monkey enrichment program at the N.E.W. Zoo. Empty, but not washed, jars can be dropped off in the bin near the restrooms. We hope to expand this project and make enrichment toys for other animals, as well as for our local zoo this summer. Stay tuned!



Please see Brenda Francis or Candace Anderson for questions or to share ideas of what you would like us to do.



Council Meeting

All members are welcome.
Tuesday, Mar. 10, at 7pm.

Worship and Music Committee

Tuesday, Mar. 17, at 7:00 pm.

Property Committee

Thursday, Mar. 26, at 6:00 pm

YMT-- The Youth Ministry Team is asking for your help. They would like to compile your favorite tried and true recipes into a St. Andrew's cookbook. They would sell the cookbooks as a fundraiser for their future endeavors. If there are any of your recipes that you would like to see in the cookbook, please place a copy of the recipe in Patty Koplitz's mailbox. The staff mailboxes are located right outside of the kitchen. Thank you!



Church Staff

Pastor Karen Jewell

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Office Staff – Megan Krump

Sandy Last

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Youth Director – Patty Koplitz

Phone: (920) 420-5616

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Choir Director – Brenda Francis

Organist – Sandy Last

Caretaker – Pat Coates